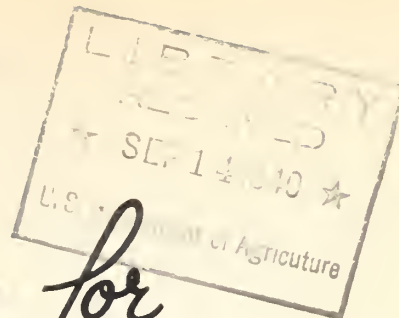


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Facts for NORTHEAST COMMITTEEMEN

Issued by the Northeast Division
Agricultural Adjustment Administration
U.S.D.A. Washington, D.C.

VOL. 2

AUGUST 1940

NO. 8

ADMINISTRATOR'S STATEMENT TO NORTHEAST COMMITTEEMEN

"What can I do to help my country in times like these?" That was the question farmers asked themselves at the 1940 national AAA conference here in Washington. I am sure it is a question you have asked yourself.

The most important thing you and all your neighbors can do to help the country right now is to see that your AAA program is carried out as it should be on your farms. There will be temptations to relax on the provisions of the program, and there will be some who will advocate dropping the entire program because of its expense. You who understand are the ones who will have to hold the line for America on the farm front. The machinery you have built up so laboriously these last few years is not something to be junked in the hour of national need.

For here in Washington it is acknowledged that agriculture is the best prepared industry. The program you have built in your communities has provided a system for raising and storing the food and fiber America needs without the waste that comes from uncontrolled surpluses and shortages. You may feel proud to have played your part as a Triple-A committeeman in building this program that gives America the edge over every country in the world in agricultural preparedness.

Two great ideas are in a life-and-death struggle in the world today. Dictatorships have challenged democracies. The dictators claim that democracies are inefficient, soft, and doomed to failure within and to conquest from without. We deny this, but to make our denial good we must make our democracy just as efficient as the dictator states. This the AAA and related programs have done for agriculture.

Why do we want to keep our democracy? We want democracy because it is a form of society that gives the individual the greatest freedom of opportunity, movement, thought, and growth. No matter how much the outward forms may change, every citizen should jealously watch to see that there is no interference with basic rights. Chief of these is control of government by all the citizens through the free ballot. Closely related are free assembly, free speech, free press, and fair trial in the courts.

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If we cling to these basic rights, we shall not lose our democracy. Changes may be forced in the way we carry out the common business of producing, buying, selling, law-making, dispute-settling, schooling, etc., but if there is no interference with the basic rights no one need fear.

For instance, every farmer used to go his own way, produce as he pleased, exploit the land as he pleased, go bankrupt as he pleased. That way came to be too costly to the Nation, so farmers set up the AAA as democracy's way of enabling farmers to cooperate with each other and with the Government to conserve soil and maintain income. The democracy test for AAA would be: (1) *Is it voluntary?* (2) *Is it operated by farmers?* (3) *Is it subject to the will of the people through the ballot?* (4) *Can anyone think, write, or speak as he pleases about AAA?*

I have spoken freely about these matters affecting democracy because we are in a period of stress and strain when men and women get right down to bedrock in their thinking. None of us can afford to fool ourselves or be misled or mislead others. It is as true today as ever that "*ETERNAL VIGILANCE IS THE PRICE OF LIBERTY.*" As AAA committeemen you have unusual opportunities and responsibilities. To fulfill them you must continue to read and to study, and to encourage your neighbors to do likewise. I say to you, fortify your program and your farms as your great contribution to America.



Administrator.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT TO NORTHEAST COMMITTEEMEN

Many of our committeemen in the Northeast are asking how the National Defense Plan will affect our farm program. So far as I know, there is not one of the things we have been doing that will not be demanded increasingly if agriculture is to take its necessary place in our defense program.

The first responsibilities of the farm program will be:

- To keep our soils and farms fit and ready for any demand.*
- To keep ample reserves of food and fiber for any emergency.*
- To keep the door of opportunity open for all farmers just as it must be kept open for all classes in this country.*

The future of the country in the trying days ahead will depend inevitably on whether all classes in America are united to make any sacrifice necessary to the protection of democracy. This unity is possible only if the people of America:

- Believe that democracy gives them opportunity.*
- Believe that democracy deals justly with them.*

Our farm program carries the responsibility to help justify the democratic faith of the farm people of the country, and beyond that to prove to industry and labor that agriculture can and will make an honest effort to understand the other fellow's problems and to cooperate in solving them.



Director, Northeast Division, AAA

STATE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS IN REGION

Seven State committeemen have been named in the Northeast Region during the past 8 months. The majority of these appointments are a result of the Region's long-established policy of rotating these important AAA offices.

JACOB A. BLAKESLEE, Newton, New Jersey, was appointed August 23 to replace the late H. O. Packard; WALTER H. BEEBE, East Dorset, was appointed July 30 as an additional member of the Vermont committee; MELVILLE G. GREY, Wenham, was appointed July 15 as an additional member of the Massachusetts committee; HENRY F. JOY, Woodstock, Connecticut, was appointed July 1 to replace Edward J. Graham, Jr., whose appointment terminated June 30; GOTTFRED H. BAHLER, Rockville, Connecticut, was appointed June 17 to replace Donald J. Grant who resigned June 7; ALBERT H. SMITH, Union City, Pennsylvania, was appointed May 8 to replace James M. Hall who resigned November 31, 1939; and OSCAR R. HALLENE, Hills Grove, Rhode Island, was appointed as of January 1 to replace E. Ward Mason, whose appointment terminated December 31, 1939.

CROP INSURANCE HAS TWO VALUES

"indications are that an increased number of farmers will take part in the 1941 wheat crop insurance program," according to C. Ely Wickham, Northeast Region Administrative Officer. "This is conclusive evidence of the value of crop insurance, not only for those who have had loss experience but also for all farmers who have had the satisfaction of knowing they would harvest a guaranteed yield -- regardless of any unfavorable trick nature might play upon them," he stated.

Pennsylvania wheat crop losses paid by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation so far this year total 2,354 bushels. There were 44 indemnities paid out of 5,865 contracts held. The estimated insured production in Pennsylvania totaled 979,546 bushels.

August 31 marked the closing date for winter wheat insurance on the 1941 crop.

MERCER COMMUNITY COMMITTEES MAKE PERFECT SCORE

"We put it right up to them and make it their responsibility," says A. C. McLean, AAA Secretary, Mercer County, N. J., in explanation of how to get community committeemen to discuss the farm program with groups of farmers. Mercer County is the only county in the Northeast Region in which every community committeeman actively participated in this educational work.

"It was the committeemen's responsibility to get the program known in their respective districts, and the chairman of each committee was held directly responsible for seeing that the educational work was carried through. I feel that making the men directly responsible for getting the work done by a certain date made them get out and do it.

"Also, the county committee refused to receive any application for adjustment in allotments unless the farmer was first interviewed by his community committeemen and got their O.K. This also had the effect of placing the responsibility on the community committee -- the farmers asked questions and requested the committeemen to take part in local meetings.

"The program was particularly discussed in Granges and other local organizations," Secretary McLean reports.

CONSERVATION MATERIALS SUPPLIES

Sources of supply for all liming and phosphate materials under the 1941 Agricultural Conservation Program will be established by September 15. Deliveries of these conservation materials, formerly known as grant-of-aid materials, will start October 1 on farms which have completed their 1940 program.

Contracts for limestone have already been made in Maine and Rhode Island. Similar action is pending for the States of Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, and Pennsylvania.

Sources of supply for triple superphosphate and 20 percent superphosphate for delivery to sidings have already been established. Sources of supply for 20 percent superphosphate to be delivered to individual farms will be established by competitive bids to be opened September 5.

GOVERNMENT FIGURES CHARTED HERE SHOW THAT THE REAL VALUE OF FARMERS' INCOME IN ALL NORTH-EASTERN STATES EXCEPT MAINE HAS RISEN ABOVE PRE-DEPRESSION LEVELS. REAL VALUE OF FARMERS' INCOME IS NOW 25 TO 50 PERCENT HIGHER (NOT INDICATED ON THE MAP BELOW) THAN AT THE DEPTH OF THE DEPRESSION.

